Re: James Earl Ray

As a result of the information furnished by McFerren, the following interviews were conducted by FBI Agents of the Memphis and New Orleans Divisions:

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 Date 4/22/68

JAMES WILLIAM LATCH, home address 3137 Overbrook, Memphis, Tennessee, Vice-president, LL & L Produce Company, 814 Scott Street, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at his place of business at which time he furnished the following information:

On April 4, 1968, he arrived at work at approximately 5:30 a.m. and stayed on the job, with the exception of lunch and possibly going to see one of his business associates, until 6:00 p.m.

LATCH advised that in his capacity as vice president he is continually dealing with the public and business associates over the telephone and, therefore, does not have an exact recollection of just what transpired on that day. To the best of his knowledge, he does not remember discussing with anyone the possibility of shooting KING and emphatically denied having any knowledge of the activity of the person responsible for MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s death.

LATCH was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, also knownnas ERIC STARVO GALT, and failed to identify these photographs as being identical with any individual he knew.

LATCH advised it is not uncommon talk among co-workers in and around the produce company and other individuals in the Memphis area to discuss the comments of KING while he was in the Memphis, Tennessee, area. LATCH advised he may have made some general remarks regarding KING, especially since he felt the curfew in the Memphis area during KING's stay at Memphis, cost him approximately $40,000 to $50,000 in lost sales.

LATCH advised that he receives and makes numerous telephone calls and specifically denied any telephone call made mentioning the shooting of Dr. KING or of any reference to KING. He stated that he had no knowledge of the shooting of Dr. KING while at work at the produce company.

On 4/19/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK & SA ANDREW SLOAN:RF:cjs:bb Date dictated 4/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

LATCH advised that he had been in New Orleans, Louisiana, just before Christmas, 1967. He advised it is not unusual for him to travel in his capacity as vice president of a produce company to obtain various produce in certain sections of the South. He left work at approximately 6:00 p.m., April 4, 1968, and feels certain he heard about the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., on his car radio although it is possible that if he stayed at work that day past 6:00 p.m. his sister or his wife may have telephonically contacted him as it is common for him to call these individuals just prior to leaving work. LATCH advised that he cannot be specific about his actions on April 4, 1968, inasmuch as he is continually on the go and is in constant contact with various individuals, many of whom are business people who are coming to him for the first time.

He reiterated he may have made disparaging remarks about KING, both prior to the shooting and after the shooting of KING, and stated he does not consider this to be uncommon.

The following description of LATCH was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	JAMES WILLIAM LATCH
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
DOB:	October 18, 1928
POB:	Alcorn, Mississippi
Height:	6'
Weight:	200
Hair:	Sandy brown
Eyes:	Bluish gray
Scars and marks:	Scar on right side of neck
Vehicle:	Drives a 1963 Cadillac, Tennessee
Tennessee plates - 1966 Chevrolet Pickup	plates: 1966 Chevrolet Pickup Truck Tennessee plates
Military service:	U. S. Army, [redacted]
Weapons:	Owns Browning Shotgun, Italian Mauser, and .22 automatic pistol
Arrest record:	Arrested Memphis, Tennessee, on false pretenses, originating in Memphis,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/23/68

FRANK CAMILLA LIBERTO, home address 3271 Powers Street, Raleigh, Memphis, Tennessee, employed as president of the LL & L Produce Company, 814 Scott, Memphis, was interviewed at his place of business and he furnished the following information:

To the best of his knowledge, he was at his place of business on April 4, 1968, and stated he did not recall exactly what time he arrived but remembered leaving at any time between 4:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. He called his wife at home just prior to leaving and she could probably verify the fact he arrived home sometime after 5:00 p.m.

LIBERTO emphatically denied having any knowledge of the identity of the person responsible for Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s death on April 4, 1968. He also emphatically denied ever discussing with anyone the possibility of shooting KING although he admitted he had made the usual derogatory remarks about KING's action in Memphis, Tennessee, and also about the fact KING was partly responsible for the curfew imposed on the city of Memphis resulting in loss of revenue by his business establishment in the Memphis area. He advised he may have made statements to the effect that KING should be killed although he does not recall any specific statements made by him to this effect. He stated that because of the curfew, he suffered approximately $40,000 in lost sales at the produce company.

LIBERTO stated he frequently makes trips to New Orleans, Louisiana, to get strawberries and other produce and also because members of his family reside in the New Orleans area. He stated most of the co-workers, employees, and customers at his produce company know of his travels to New Orleans inasmuch as he frequently mentions his trips to New Orleans.

LIBERTO stated that regarding telephone calls allegedly made by him or telephone calls to him on April 4, 1968, he specifically denied receiving any call where mention was made of Dr. KING or of Dr. KING's shooting. LIBERTO stated most of his produce is purchased through telephone conversations and this

---

On 4/19/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK & SA ANDREW SLOAN: RF:cjs;bb Date dictated 4/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

inevitably involves talking about large sums of money over the telephone. He advised he did not receive any telephone call on April 4, 1968, regarding KING and stated he would have remembered any conversation over the telephone or in person which allegedly took place on April 4, 1968, involving the death of KING. He further stated he would have no reason for being involved in any action of this sort.

LIBERTO advised he frequently taunts various individuals regarding racial matters and may have made disparaging remarks to some of his customers involving KING but reiterated he does not consider this uncommon among various co-workers at his place of employment.

LIBERTO advised he has had no individual employed recently in late fall or early winter at his produce company fitting the description of the unknown individual described as having long straight, coarse, black hair, "jungle rot" on his neck, slender build, drop shoulders, tan complexion, 5'10"-5'11", 160 pounds, and "not a day over 25" years of age. He always employs Negro males for help in the produce department and any unidentified white male seen in or around his produce company would most likely be a truck driver or an individual who had come to his establishment to purchase produce.

LIBERTO stated he left work between 4:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and was not aware of KING's death until after his arrival at his home. He advised the first he heard of KING's death was from his wife or from the news media which reported it on television.

LIBERTO was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, also known as ERIC STARVO GALT and he stated he had never seen this individual before. He was furnished other aliases used by RAY and stated he had never heard any of these names used in his presence. He then made a search of his records but could locate no record on any individual by the name of JAMES EARL RAY, ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD as ever being employed at his establishment.

LIBERTO reiterated that he did not receive any telephone call on April 4, 1968, where mention was made of shooting KING or

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

any reference made to KING and stated he felt sure he would remember such a telephone conversation if it had, in fact, taken place.

LIBERTO advised he has family members residing in New Orleans, Louisiana, and identified these individuals as follows:

Mother	EMILY LIBERTO, 2219 Altomaster Street New Orleans, Louisiana
Brothers	TONY LIBERTO, resides two houses away from his mother; VINCENT LIBERTO, who works for Viking Truck Company as a dock foreman in New Orleans; [redacted] LIBERTO, who SALVADORE LIBERTO, who works for West Brothers as a truck driver in New Orleans, Louisiana.

LIBERTO advised an individual who frequently is in and around his establishment is AMELIO GUASCO, 38 years of age, who was formerly a Shelby County Sheriff's Office deputy.

The following description of LIBERTO was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	FRANK CAMILLA LIBERTO
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	January 7, 1917
POB	Memphis, Tennessee
Height	5'10" - 5'11"
Weight	285
Eyes	Grayish blue
Hair	Brown
Vehicle	Drives a 1967 Chevrolet Station Wagon
Arrest record	Memphis, Tennessee, for embezzling peaches.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/22/68

TONY SANSONE, 814 Scott Street, Sansone Produce Company, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

The individuals operating LL & L Produce Company were identified as JAMES LATCH and FRANK LIBERTO. SANSONE described LATCH as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	Approximately 35
Complexion:	Fair
Characteristics:	Pug nose, casual dresser
Eyes:	Blue
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	200

He described LIBERTO as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Complexion:	Dark
Age:	Approximately 40
Build:	Heavy
Weight:	325-350
Height:	5'10"
Scars and marks:	Scar on neck
Remarks:	Neat dresser.

SANSONE advised that LIBERTO had closed his business early and was not available for interview and that LIBERTO was at that time in New Orleans, Louisiana, buying strawberries for the produce market.

SANSONE was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, also known as ERIC STARVO GALT and he failed to identify this individual as anyone being in and around his place of business.

On 4/18/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK & SA ANDREW SLOAN: RF:cjs:bb Date dictated 4/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

1

Mr. ANTHONY LIBERTO located and interviewed at his residence, 2211 Almonaster, New Orleans, Louisiana, and advised as follows:

He is currently retired and living alone at this address. He formerly worked for a 17 year period with Viking Truck Lines, but for medical reasons was forced to retire. He stated that he is a diabetic with a heart condition. For that reason he cannot do strenuous labor. He stated that he has not been in telephonic contact with his brother, FRANK in Memphis in several years and the only member of his immediate family residing in New Orleans who may have possibly been in touch with FRANK would have been is mother, Mrs. EMMA LIBERTO, who resides at 2219 Almonaster.

He viewed a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY stating this individual looked familiar but he could not identify it.

He stated that his brother SALVATORE lives some where on the West Bank of the Mississippi River, exact address unknown; however, his telephone number is 367-3020. He stated that both his brother, SALVATORE and VINCENT are employed with trucking firms and have been so employed for many years. He stated no one in his immediate family is employed in the produce business in New Orleans. He knows that his brother FRANK occasionally makes trips to the Hammond, Louisiana, area to purchase particularly strawberries but has no knowledge of any other business contacts of his brother in New Orleans. He stated he would have no knowledge of any disparaging remarks made by his brother or any of his employees concerning KING or the Negro element.

The following is a description gained through observation and interview:

Name	ANTHONY LIBERTO
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'8"
Weight	300
Hair	Brown, bald on top

On 4/22/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

SAS THOMAS L. COLARELLI

by PATRICK J. COLLINS, JR. TLC:man Date dictated 4/23/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NO 157-10673
2

Eyes — Blue
Birth data — September 15, 1921, Memphis
Occupation — Retired, formerly with Viking Truck Lines

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

1

Mrs. EMMA LIBERTO, 2219 Almonaster, was interviewed in the home of her son, ANTHONY LIBERTO, 2211 Almonaster and advised as follows:

She is the widow of VINCENT LIBERTO, and her maiden name was HARDIN. She was born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee, and is 71 years of age. She and her husband came to New Orleans about 39 years ago and she has seven living children, of which three sons and one daughter reside in New Orleans.

She stated she saw her son FRANK last Friday when he stopped in to see her after a trip to the Hammond, Louisiana, area for the purpose of purchasing strawberries for his produce business.

She occasionally contacts him by telephone and in fact called him a couple of days after the KING assassination purely out of concern for the family and to inquire as to the local situation.

She viewed a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that it looked familiar; however, she could not identify it specifically. She advised she has no knowledge of the KING assassination, other then what she has read in the newspapers and seen on television.

On 4/22/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SAS THOMAS L. COLARELLI PATRICK J. COLLINS, JR. TLC:mah Date dictated 4/23/68

20.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

-1

Mr. VINCENT LIBERTO located in the vicinity of his employment, Viking Truck Lines, 6750 Gentilly Road, New Orleans, and interviewed. He voluntarily furnished the following information:

There is only one member of his immediate family that is in the produce business and that is his brother FRANK, in Memphis, Tennessee. He has not talked to FRANK by telephone in at least four years. He stated FRANK is the oldest of the brothers and there are two other brothers residing here in New Orleans, at present. One is ANTHONY who resides at 2211 Almonaster, who is a retired diabetic with a heart condition, having previously been employed by Viking for many years. The other brother is SALVATORE, who works for West Brothers Trucking Lines, and has for many years. SALVATORE lives in Terry Town, just across the Mississippi River Bridge, and he believes the address is on Matador Drive.

He stated he was born and raised in Memphis and his father was in the produce business for many years, but none of the brothers in New Orleans are in the produce business. He knows that FRANK occasionally travels to Hammond, Louisiana, to purchase strawberries but he knows of no other business contacts of FRANK in the produce line in New Orleans.

He examined a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, and advised he has seen this individual in the newspapers and television and has no knowledge of the KING assassination other than that gained from the news media.

He stated he resides at 705 North Upton and is mother, Mrs. EMMA LIBERTO, resides alone at 2219 Almonaster. He stated he would have no knowledge of any disparaging remarks made by his brother FRANK concerning KING or the Negro element.

The following is a description gained from observation and interview:

Name	VINCENT LIBERTO
Sex	Male
Race	White

On 4/22/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana -21 File # NO 157-10673

by SAS THOMAS L. COLARELLI
PATRICK J. COLLINS, JR. TLC:mah Date dictated 4/23/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NO 157-10673
2

Height	5'8"
Weight	185
Birth data	March 22, 1923, Memphis, Tennessee
Hair	Black, graying
Eyes	Blue
Occupation	Truck driver-Viking Truck Lines, 6750 Gentilly Road, New Orleans
Residence	705 North Upton

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

1

SALVADOR ALBERT LIBERTO, 856 Matador, Gretna, Louisiana, telephone number 367-3020, advised that he was born September 18, 1936, in New Orleans, Louisiana. On January 22, 1954, at New Orleans, he married PATRICIA KRELLER and has one son and three daughters. For the past thirteen (13) years, LIBERTO has been employed as a checker at the West Trucking Company, New Orleans.

LIBERTO stated that sometime just before the MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., assassination, exact date unrecalled, he telephonically spoke to his brother, FRANK LIBERTO, in Memphis, Tennessee. LIBERTO made this telephone call from his mother's residence. The purpose of this call was to borrow $200 from his brother. LIBERTO did not make this call from his own residence, as he did not want his spouse to know about the loan. His brother, FRANK LIBERTO, wired him $200 in care of his mother's residence in New Orleans.

While on the telephone with his brother FRANK, FRANK invited him to visit him in Memphis, or to meet him at Hot Springs, Arkansas. LIBERTO advised that his brother, FRANK, follows the race horses and likes to go to a race track at Hot Springs, Arkansas, and bet horses. FRANK LIBERTO discussed his winnings and loses on the telephone with SALVADOR LIBERTO. SALVADOR LIBERTO does not recall the exact amounts of money he discussed.

LIBERTO viewed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and WALTER TERRY RIFE and advised that he did not know either of these individuals and he did not believe that he had ever seen either of these individuals.

On 4/23/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA PATRICK J. COLLINS, JR.:sja Date dictated 4/23/68

23

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

RE: James Earl Ray

Investigation by both Memphis and New Orleans has failed to associate any of the LIBERTOS with the Mafia - La Cosa Nostra, or to Carlos Marcellos.

According to Mr. Flannery's memorandum, Sartor states that Joe Cacameci(PH) and Larry Mann, Aka. Larry Manning and Larry Max, two professional killers, are also involved in this matter. Sartor claims that Joe Cacameci allegedly met James Earl Ray at a Lion Service Station in Memphis the day of or the night before the shooting and Larry Mann has been saying he works for Frank Liberto and is responsible for "getting" James Earl Ray. According to one of Sartor's New Orleans informants, James Earl Ray was seen at or stayed at the Pontotoc Hotel in Memphis approximately three days before the shooting.

Sartor also refers to an individual by the name Pat Lyons who was interviewed by both Flannery and Sartor and allegedly made a statement to the effect that according to one "Ernie," Ray met Joe Cacameci at a Lion Service Station on the night before or the day of the shooting.

In connection with the information contained in the foregoing paragraph, Robert Patrick Lyons, Aka. Pat, was interviewed on November 19, 1968. His comments are set forth as follows:

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/21/68

Robert Patrick Lyons, 3529 Marion Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, unlisted Telephone 324-1803, was interviewed at his place of employment, Cruzen Equipment Co., Inc., 160 West Mallory Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, Telephone 947-3146, and was apprised of the identities of interviewing Special Agents of the FBI. Lyons furnished the following information:

Lyons advised that he is familiar with an individual by the name Bill Sartor, whom he met through Marie Geisendorf, Aka. Marie Lyons, shortly after the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. Lyons stated he was introduced in August, 1968, to an individual known as Nick Flannery, who stated he was from the Justice Department, Washington, D. C. Lyons advised that originally Bill Sartor had asked Geisendorf to ascertain information from Negroes in the Memphis community concerning the death of Martin Luther King, Jr., but then asked Pat Lyons to obtain any information concerning the death of Martin Luther King, Jr., with the possibility that the "Mafia" was connected with King's death. Lyons advised that he made no attempt to ascertain any information concerning the Mafia and the death of Martin Luther King, Jr.

He stated that when he met Flannery, he repeated to Flannery exactly what Sartor had previously told him, namely that Joe Cacameci met with James Earl Ray at a Lion Service Station on the day before the death of Martin Luther King. He stated that this information came from Sartor and was in no way information he developed on his own. He stated that Cacameci is known to him as a cosmetics salesman in the Memphis area and is known to drink frequently in Caesar's Lounge, which according to Lyons is owned by Ernie Barrasso. Lyons states Barrasso is a former schoolmate of his and a legitimate businessman in the Memphis community. Lyons states Barrasso is a nephew of Frank Liberto, whom Lyons described as a local Memphis businessman. He identified Larry Max, Aka. Larry Mann, as a worker on a tug boat on the Mississippi River. He stated neither Max nor Cacameci is known to him as a professional killer. Lyons states both Max and Cacameci are employed in the Memphis area and his only association with them has been

---

On 11/19/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK
by SA TERRENCE P. NEIST RF:BN Date dictated 11/20/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

through the Club Caesar, which is owned by Ernie Barrasso.

Lyons advised that Sartor inquired about Claude Cockrell, who is known to Lyons as a possible segregationist in the Memphis area. Lyons stated Sartor is of the opinion that if a car was used to go to Millington, as described by the news media, then Cockrell was the logical person, although no reason was given by Sartor for this. Lyons said Sartor was of the opinion that if another white Mustang was used to assist the killer of King in escaping the Memphis area, as referred to by the news media concerning the CB radio broadcast, then he considered Cockrell to be the logical person to have a private airplane waiting at Millington.

Lyons further stated that Sartor is of the opinion that officers who were suspended for alleged police brutality within the past year are involved in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King. According to Lyons, Sartor does not give any basis for this.

Sartor told Lyons that he has contact with the Mafia in New Orleans, New York, and Philadelphia, although he named only one individual, one Solo or Sola, as his contact with the Mafia in New Orleans.

Lyons stated he has had numerous casual meetings with Sartor and during this period Lyons has volunteered certain information of his personal life to Sartor, including facts regarding the tragic death of Lyons' wife. While volunteering information to Sartor regarding his wife's illness, Lyons mentioned that his wife had become addicted to the use of narcotics during her illness and in this regard had cooperated with Federal Drug Administration Supervisor Don Voight. Sartor had asked Lyons to ascertain information regarding narcotics from Voight.

Lyons described Sartor as being unreliable and as attributing false information to Lyons, which information was actually rumored by Sartor. According to Lyons, Sartor, by originating these rumors in different areas in Memphis, is able to get a "play back" from various sources, which he uses as a means of lending credence to his stories.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Lyons advised he could furnish no information concerning any conspiracy in the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. He said he knows of no individuals involved with James Earl Ray in the death of Martin Luther King, Jr.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

With regard to the allegation that Ray resided at the Pontotoc Hotel in Memphis approximately three days prior to the killing of Martin Luther King, Jr., a complete review of the records of the Pontotoc Hotel, 69 West Pontotoc Street, Memphis, on 11/18/68 for the period March 23 through April 8, 1968, failed to reveal any information concerning Ray under his true name or known aliases. Mr. George Antipas, Manager, Pontotoc Hotel, advised he has 27 sleeping rooms at the Pontotoc Hotel, and that approximately 21 or 22 of these rooms are occupied by more or less permanent residents. He claims he himself resides at thehotel and he is positive that Ray never resided at this hotel during the past eleven years.

According to Mr. Flannery's memorandum, Sartor claims that a Reverend Carl Basinger, 1617 E. Moreland, Memphis, was advised by a ranking officer in the Memphis Police Department (Captain or above) not to go near Dr. King because something was going to happen to him.

Reverend Carl Basinger, 1617 Eastmoreland, Memphis, was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on 11/18/68. Reverend Basinger claims that he has known Bill Sartor, a contract reporter for "Time" magazine, since approximately April, 1968, and has had frequent contact with him since that date. He claims that, in fact, Sartor at the present time maintains a room at Basinger's residence.

With regard to the information Sartor attributes to Basinger, Reverend Basinger stated that those are not the exact words he has used in discussions with Sartor, and the statement attributed to him by Sartor has been taken completely out of context and is inaccurate.

Basinger refused to state whether he had any discussion with any Memphis police officer concerning Martin Luther King, Jr.; however, he admitted that he has had many conversations with ranking police officers of the Memphis Police Department in the past six years. Basinger admitted

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

that he currently does hold a grudge against the Memphis Police Department due to the fact that he is not satisfied with the manner in which certain officers of the Police Department have handled complaints he has made to the Department in the past.

Reverend Basinger describes Bill Sartor as being an alcoholic who is currently experiencing marital difficulties. By "alcoholic", Reverend Basinger stated he means that he has observed Bill Sartor commence drinking alcoholic beverages, namely wine and hard liquor, as early as 8 o'clock in the morning and to continue to consume these alcoholic beverages throughout the day and into the night.

According to the memorandum of Mr. Flannery, Sartor claims that shortly after the killing a bartender overheard some Memphis policemen say there had been a "slip up" and that the assassination was originally scheduled to take place after the march for which Dr. King had returned to Memphis.

Since Sartor was either unwilling or unable to identify the bartender, the Memphis Office of the FBI has been unable to conduct any investigation to determine the veracity of this allegation; however, a review of the records of the Memphis Police Department and the Memphis FBI Office has failed to reveal any information to indicate that such an incident was ever reported to these respective law enforcement agencies.

According to Mr. Flannery's memorandum, Sartor refers to a civilian having been observed lying in the back of a police car immediately after the shooting and near Mulberry and Huling. He got out of the police car, into another car, and was driven away.

In this regard, the records of the Memphis Police Department reveal the following:

At 6:55 p.m. on 4/4/68, Manuel Marcus Levine, a white male, and Alex Joy Hurder, a white male, were both arrested at Second Street and Vance by officers assigned to Police Tactical Units #14, inasmuch as they refused to give the due to the fact that these individuals refused to give the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

officers any reason for being in the area of the Lorraine Motel at the time of the shooting of Reverend King. According to the arresting officers, these two individuals were placed in a marked patrol car, questioned, and then transferred to an unmarked police car for transportation to Central Police Headquarters. According to Inspector Don H. Smith, Memphis Police Department, the handling of these prisoners was standard operating procedure and most persons arrested by tactical units during disturbances during this period were transported to Headquarters in unmarked cars, one arrestee to a car.

According to Mr. Flannery's memorandum, Sartor claims that an unidentified Negro policeman was removed from his assignment at the Fire Station at about 5 p.m. on the day of the assassination. Sartor identifies this policeman as E. E. REDDITT.

Sartor also states that two Negro firemen were moved from the station a day or two before the shooting. One of them had reportedly told friends that two or three days before Dr. King was shot a telescope or binoculars had been set up on a tripod in the Fire Station and focused on the Lorraine Motel balcony. According to this memorandum, Sartor in August advised Flannery that one fireman left the Department or was suspended, shortly after the shooting, and that he had been unable to locate either of them.

In this regard, Inspector G. P. Tines, Intelligence Unit, Memphis Police Department, advised on 11/18/68, that on 4/3/68 he assigned Detective E. E. Redditt and Patrolman W. B. Richmond, Negro officers, both of whom are assigned to the Inspection Division of the Memphis Police Department, to a security detail at the Memphis Fire Station, Engine House #2, located at Butler and Main Streets. This location is approximately one block from the Lorraine Motel. The purpose of this assignment was to observe the activities of the "Invaders," local Black Power group at Memphis. A number of the "Invaders" were rooming at the Lorraine Motel at this time. These two officers were equipped with binoculars and were stationed in a room at the rear of the fire station, with a view that included

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the room later occupied by the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

In connection with this assignment, and prior to the time Officers Redditt and Richmond physically proceeded to this assigned location, it was determined by the Intelligence Unit of the Memphis Police Department that a Negro fireman stationed at the Fire Station and named Floyd E. Newsum had taken an active part in demonstrations by the striking sanitaton workers in February and March, 1968, and had been closely associated with black militants connected with the strike. In order to insure security for Officers Redditt and Richmond, and to insure that no information regarding the Memphis Police Department Intelligence Unit's efforts to keep abreast of the activities of the "Invaders" was leaked to the black militants in Memphis, the Chief of the Memphis Fire Department was requested to temporarily transfer Fireman Newsum to another fire station. This was done on 4/3/68.

In addition, on 4/4/68, Negro Fireman Norvell E. Wallace was routinely assigned from Fire Station #2 to Fire Station #31, due to a manpower shortage at Fire Station #31.

On 11/18/68, Fire Chief Hamilton advised that by letter dated 5/18/68, Fireman Newsum resigned from the Memphis Fire Department after thirteen years of service, giving as his reason for leaving "Personal Reasons." Chief Hamilton advised it is his understanding that Newsum has become an active worker with the NAACP at Memphis subsequent to his resignation from the Memphis Fire Department.

At approximately 4:15 p.m. on 4/4/68, Lt. E. H. Arkin of the Intelligence Unit of the Memphis Police Department, on instructions from Inspector Tines, proceeded to Fire Engine House #2 and removed Detective Redditt from this station, leaving Officer Richmond at this post. The reason for the removal of Officer Redditt was due to the receipt of a telephone call on the morning of 4/4/68 by Philip Manuel, Chief Investigator for Senator McClellan's Senate Investigating Committee, Washington, D. C., to the effect that information had been

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

received by the Committee that a Negro detective on the Memphis Police Department was to be killed.

Due to Detective E. E. Redditt's activities in attending meetings of the striking sanitation workers in February and March 1968, Redditt had been threatened on several occasions. Inspector Tines therefore believed the telephone call received by the McClellan Committee was another threat directed against Redditt. He therefore ordered Redditt removed from his lookout post at Engine House #2 for Redditt's own protection. A police guard of two officers was assigned to Redditt and his family as a result of this threat.

A review of the tapes of the Memphis Police Department radio transmissions for April 4, 1968, failed to reflect any transmissions from Police Dispatcher ordering Redditt to move from his observation post and, in fact, it has been ascertained that no radio equipment was maintained by the Police officers at this observation post with which to receive radio transmissions.

According to this memorandum, Sartor mentions something to the effect that Chief of Detectives W. P. Huston of the Memphis Police Department telephonically contacted the Lorraine Motel regarding stationing detectives at the motel.

In this regard, Chief Huston has advised that he does not recall talking to any maid at the Lorraine Motel on 4/4/68; however, he stated he had been in telephonic contact on a number of occasions with Mr. Walter Bailey, Manager of the Motel, regarding the identity of certain individuals registered at the Motel.

It has been determined from the Memphis Police Department that on the morning of 4/3/68, Memphis Chief of Police J. C. Macdonald ordered Chief W. P. Huston of the Department to send a detail of men to the Memphis Metropolitan Airport to offer security to the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. and his party. Police records reflect that Inspector Don H. Smith offered the services of the police detail to Mrs.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Thomas Mathews, who was acting as chauffeur for Dr. Martin Luther King. Mrs. Mathews advised Lt. George Kelly Davis, Memphis Police Department, who is an officer in this detail, that they had not asked for police to be assigned to protect Dr. King, and did not desire a police escort. In addition, members of King's party refused to tell the police detail where they planned to stay or their itinerary while in Memphis. Inspector Smith, while offering the services of the Memphis Police Department to Dr. King for security, escort, and protection purposes, was advised by the Reverend James Lawson, an associate of King, that no assistance was desired and that they had not fully made up their minds where they were going with Reverend KING after they left the Memphis Metropolitan Airport.

At approximately 1:30 a.m., on 4/5/68, Gerald Fanion, a member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) Strategy Committee, advised Sidney L. Cole of the Memphis Police Department that this SCLC Strategy Committee had considered asking for police protection for the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.; however, the Committee had decided against this.

According to Mr. Flannery's memorandum, Sartor stated that a little Negro boy allegedly heard a shot and saw a man jump up from the bushes behind the rooming house (below the window area from which the shot is thought to have been fired) and run off. According to Sartor, the little boy has been identified and interviewed by Bureau Agents and the Memphis Police Department.

In this regard, a review of the records of the Memphis Police Department and the Memphis FBI Office has failed to reveal any information to indicate that any officers of these respective law enforcement agencies interviewed a young Negro boy who is allegedly the contributor of the above information by Sartor. In this regard, on 11/15/68, Source One and Source Two both advised that William Sartor, a 'Time' magazine

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

reporter, had gone throughout the Memphis area immediately following the King slaying, and was overheard asking leading questions of Negroes, namely, "You think it's possible that a police officer could have killed Martin Luther King, Jr.?" According to these sources, as a result of this, practically the entire Memphis Negro community has given vent to the rumor that a police officer had killed King. The sources claim this rumor has embittered a very large segment of the Negro community and has caused widespread distrust by Negroes against all law enforcement officers and has caused a serious community cleavage between the Police and the Negro community.

In view of the fact that numerous allegations have been made, either by Bill Sartor or his alleged sources, stating involvement of Memphis police officers in the assassination of Dr. King, Frank Holloman, Director of Fire & Police, was contacted. Holloman advised that shortly after the assassination of Dr. King he received information that a representative of "Time" magazine was circulating in thd Negro community and asking questions of the Negro residents. His sources informed him that the general tenor of the questions being asked was to the effect that it was conceivable that the Memphis Police Department was involved in the assassination of Dr. King. Director Holloman advised that later he learned the reported "Time" representative was an individual by the name of Sartor. He subsequently had an appointment with Sartor.

Director Holloman said at this time he informed Sartor that he had received certain information indicating that Sartor had, by his questions, created the inference in the Negro community that it was possible the Memphis Police Department was involved in the assassination of Dr, King. Director Holloman advised that he told Sartor that if Sartor wrote a story based on rumors and misstatements of facts such as he was collecting rggarding the involvement of the Memphis Police Department, Director Holloman would institute a civil suit against him and do everything in his power to insure that Sartor wrote only the truth and did not print such falsifications regarding the Memphis Police Department.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Re: James Earl Ray

Director Holloman stated that after his discussion with Sartor, Sartor has not again called at his office for any information, nor has any story appeared.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

1

BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT (BOP),
Also known as Black Organizing Power,
Afro-American Brotherhood,
Black Student Association,
Invaders,
LeMoyne Intercollegiate Chapter of the
National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People (NAACP),
City Organizers

On April 18, 1968, a third source advised that a black power group in Memphis which has been in existence for several months has until recently been known as Black Organizing Power. It is now known as Black Organizing Project (BOP), also known as Black Organizing Power, with five cells or parts, known as (1) Afro-American Brotherhood (AAB), primarily consisting of Owen College students; (2) Black Student Association (BSA), primarily consisting of Memphis State University (MSU) Negro students; (3) LeMoyne Intercollegiate Chapter of the NAACP, consisting of LeMoyne College students; (4) the Invaders, consisting mostly of high school dropouts; and (5) the City Organizers, comprised of young adults.

AAB has about 12 members; BSA has about 20 members; the Invaders has about 15 members; the LeMoyne group has about 20 members; and the City Organizers has about 20 members.

Source three advised that the BOP attempts to create pride in black identity, attempts to teach and promote the teaching of Negro history, and to promote black culture and obtain more employment for young Negroes.

The Executive Secretary of BOP is Charles Laverne Cabbage.

On February 16, 1968, Charles Laverne Cabbage personally acknowledge being leader of BOP, claiming he is the impetus of black power in Memphis, Tennessee, and that BOP's purpose is to stimulate in the young Negroes a sense of black identity, black pride, and black consciousness. He said his group follows the teachings of Student Nonviolent

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Coordinating Committee (SNCC) leaders H. Rap Brown and Stokely Carmichael but that BOP did not necessarily exist as a formal SNCC unit. CABBAGE further admitted he had made statements such as "Memphis should be burned" and "Memphis should have a good race riot," but claimed he did not mean these statements literally, merely endeavoring to shock the community into doing something to help the black race.

On February 27, 1968, a fourth source advised that at a public meeting on February 26, 1968, the BOP Chairman John Burrell Smith told a Negro audience, "We've got to do some fighting," and "You'd better get some guns, You're going to need them before this is over. You can't pray your way out."

On June 6, 1968, the fourth source advised that BOP primarily consists of about 30 to 35 young college and high school students and school dropouts, unemployed and not looking for work, who continually preach hatred of the white race and capitalistic economic system and advocating and predicting violence by blacks. The over-all plan of BOP, according to source four, is to scare the Memphis community leaders, both black and white, into fearing black militancy. The BOP leaders then hope to convince the community to fund them as a form of subtle blackmail whereby BOP can prevent racial violence. Source four said that BOP is more interested in publicity and money than in direct action, but is nevertheless preaching violence in an effort to scare the community.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-323 (Rev. 11-29-61)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Memphis, Tennessee
November 21, 1968

Title **James Earl Ray, Aka.;**
Dr. Martin Luther King, Victim

Character **Civil Rights - Conspiracy**

Reference **Memorandum dated November 21, 1968, and captioned as above.**

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 3-31-67)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,-

- ☐ Albany
- ☐ Albuquerque
- ☐ Anchorage
- ☐ Atlanta
- ☐ Baltimore
- ☐ Birmingham
- ☐ Boston
- ☐ Buffalo
- ☐ Butte
- ☐ Charlotte
- ☐ Chicago
- ☐ Cincinnati
- ☐ Cleveland
- ☐ Columbia
- ☐ Dallas
- ☐ Denver
- ☐ Detroit
- ☐ El Paso
- ☐ Honolulu
- ☐ Houston
- ☐ Indianapolis
- ☐ Jackson
- ☐ Jacksonville
- ☐ Kansas City
- ☐ Knoxville
- ☐ Las Vegas
- ☐ Little Rock
- ☐ Los Angeles
- ☐ Louisville
- ☒ Memphis
- ☐ Miami
- ☐ Milwaukee
- ☐ Minneapolis
- ☐ Mobile
- ☐ Newark
- ☐ New Haven
- ☐ New Orleans
- ☐ New York City
- ☐ Norfolk
- ☐ Oklahoma City
- ☐ Omaha
- ☐ Philadelphia
- ☐ Phoenix
- ☐ Pittsburgh
- ☐ Portland
- ☐ Richmond
- ☐ St. Louis
- ☐ Salt Lake City
- ☐ San Antonio
- ☐ San Diego
- ☐ San Francisco
- ☐ San Juan
- ☐ Savannah
- ☐ Seattle
- ☐ Springfield
- ☐ Tampa
- ☐ Washington Field
- ☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

- ☐ Bern
- ☐ Bonn
- ☐ Buenos Aires
- ☐ Hong Kong
- ☐ London
- ☐ Manila
- ☐ Mexico, D.F.
- ☐ Ottawa
- ☐ Paris
- ☐ Rome
- ☐ Santo Domingo
- ☐ Tokyo

Date November 21, 1968

RE:

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

☐ For information ☐ Retention optional ☒ For appropriate action ☐ Surep. by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks:

You may disseminate a copy of each to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

Enc.
Bufile
Urfile

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Murkin Dissemination Folder

11-21-68

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

1 - cc CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL:jms

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO. . .

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NOTE:
On 11-19-68 Mr. D. Robert Owen of the Criminal Division advised that the attached should be disseminated to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee. In accordance with the desire of Mr. Owen, this has been done.

Reference is made to the memorandum dated 11-7-68 of Mr. Pollak, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division concerning the article appearing in "Look" magazine in the 11-12-68 issue. The folliwing action has been taken in regards to the specific items as they appear in this memorandum: Items number 1 and 6 were previously furnished to you in reports of our Chicago Division. We have furnished you with parts of item 2 by prior reports. Concerning item number 3, the attached should cover this; however, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are continuing to investigate this matter, as well as the entire contents of your listed item number 4. The other items are being currently investigated and the results thereof will be furnished to you.

Reference is made to ~~your~~ mr Pollak's memorandum 11-15-68, which refers to the article in the 11-26-68 issue of "Look" magazine as written by William Bradford Huie. Most of these items have been previously investigated and the results thereof have been furnished to you, such as the purchase of the Mustang by Ray, Ray's alleged activities in Mexico, and Ray's contact with Rev. Von Koss. The other items are being investigated and you will be furnished the results of our investigation.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

11-21-68

CRIMINAL DIVISION

1 - cc CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL:jms

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO. . .

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NOTE:

On 11-19-68 Mr. D. Robert Owen of the Criminal Division advised that the attached should be disseminated to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee. In accordance with the desire of Mr. Owen, this has been done.

Reference is made to the memorandum dated 11-7-68 of Mr. Pollak, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division concerning the article appearing in "Look" magazine in the 11-12-68 issue. The following action has been taken in regards to the specific items as they appear in this memorandum: Items Number 1 and 6 were previously furnished to you in reports of our Chicago Division. We have furnished you with parts of item 2 by prior reports. Concerning item number 3, the attached should cover this; however, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are continuing to investigate this matter, as well as the entire contents of your listed item number 4. The other items are being currently investigated and the results thereof will be furnished to you.

Reference is made to Mr. Pollak's memorandum 11-15-68, which refers to the article in the 11-26-68 issue of "Look" magazine as written by William Bradford Huie. Most of these items have been previously investigated and the results thereof have been furnished to you, such as the purchase of the Mustang by Ray, Ray's alleged activities in Mexico, and Ray's contact with Rev. Von Koss. The other items are being investigated and you will be furnished the results of our investigation.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

November 21, 1968

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) advised they have again interviewed the female who met with James Earl Ray in Canada during the Summer of 1967, and she furnished the following information: Further to my statement dated 15 Oct. 1968, I wish to state that James Earl Ray never mentioned anything about Passports to me. The first time the subject was mentioned was when William Bradford Huie came to see me. He said that Ray had told him that he intended to use me to obtain a Canadian Passport, but changed his mind because he figured that I would turn him in to the Police. In my position with the Department of Transport, I would not risk my job by helping someone fraudulently obtain a Canadian Passport. The article in "Look" Magazine is factual with a few minor discrepancies. I did not show Ray the R.C.M.P. Headquarters and only received one letter from him, not letters as mentioned in the article. After reading the article, I remembered that the name of the hotel where we stayed with him in Montreal was the Har-K on Notre-Dame Street. I have a sister who is employed by the Registrar of Citizenship, but I am positive that I never mentioned her name or employment to Ray. I told her about my involvement with Ray only after Huie's visit.

The R.C.M.P. also interviewed the sister and she stated as follows: I have been employed at office of the Registrar of Citizenship for the past three years. About one and a half months ago, my sister told me about her involvement with James Earl Ray. It was after Huie's visit to Ottawa to see her. At no time did my sister ever ask me to help her obtain a passport for anyone. In fact, she never mentioned the word passport during the course of our conversation. The reason that she came to me after Huie's visit was that she was very worried and needed to confide in someone close to her. My sister is a very honest and dependable person, and her only fault is that she is a little too naive.

The R.C.M.P. investigator advised: I am satisfied that Ray did not mention anything about Passports to the female. I am positive that she is an honest person, placed in a very embarrassing position by her association with Ray.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The girlfriend of the female who consorted with Ray advised the R.C.M.P. the following: During the first long week-end in August, I accompanied my friend to St-Jovite, P.Q., where we stayed at the "Petit Manoir" Inn. During the evening, we motored up to the Grey Rock Inn where we met a man who introduced himself as Eric Galt. I did not pay much attention to him and after a few drinks I went back to the Manoir. My friend stayed with him. I did not see Galt again until we visited him in Montreal the following Monday. Since it was impossible to find a room in Montreal because of Expo, we stayed with him during the two nights that we spent in Montreal. He took us out to the Acapulco Club. He seemed to have enough money to get along, but he did not strike me as being very prosperous. He never mentioned friends or associates and did not introduce us to anyone. He appeared to be a quiet and regular sort of a guy. He never mentioned the word passport to us. I never saw him again after we left Montreal. I heard from my friend later that he had been to Ottawa to see her. After James Earl Ray's arrest, she called me and asked if I thought that he could be the man we had met. I did not think so at the time and was surprised when it turned out to be him.

Discreet inquiries at the Town and Country Motel, 1476 Richmond Road, Ottawa, revealed that Eric Galt registered there on the 18th of August 1967, and left on the 20th of August 1967. He gave his address as 507 Chestnut Street, Chicago, Illinois, and was driving a Plymouth, License No. LM5942. He stayed in Cabin No. 30, which is not equipped with a telephone. Any calls made by him from one of the several pay phones at the Motel would not go through the Motel Switchboard and be recorded. Although he registered as Mr. and Mrs. Eric Galt, his female friend did not stay with him at the Motel, as mentioned in her statement dated 15 August 1968. The Desk Clerk on duty at the Town and Country Motel when Ray alias Galt, registered, Mrs. Edythe Cobley, is reported to be dying from terminal cancer and will not be interviewed. It is extremely doubtful that she could remember anything of any significance about Ray. Copies of the Motel Registration Card are attached hereto.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CARLING Blvd. № 10881

Town 'n Country Ltd.

MOTEL & RESTAURANT

OTTAWA 14, ONTARIO TEL. 828-2771

NAMES Eric Galt

STREET 567 Chestnut St

CITY Chicago STATE or PROVINCE Ill

Make of Car Plymouth License No. LMS942

— NOTICE TO GUESTS —

The management reserves the right to refuse services to anyone, and will not be responsible for accidents or injury to guests or for loss of money, jewelry or valuables of any kind.

Please Pay In Advance

ROOM 30	NO. IN PARTY 2
DATE 18 Aug 67	RATE 10.00

GALT

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED:
THE COMMISSIONER
ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
OTTAWA 7, CANADA

TOUTE CORRESPONDANCE DOIT ÊTRE ADRESSÉE COMME SUIT:
LE COMMISSAIRE
GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA
OTTAWA 7, CANADA

HEADQUARTERS – DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE

OUR NO. _____
VOTRE N°

OTTAWA 7, CANADA

R NO. 68HQ 791-Q-60 (Vol.5)
VOTRE N°

October 25, 1968.

Mr. Moss Lee Innes,
c/o United States Embassy,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Re: Martin Luther KING
Murder of

On October 8 last information was received from the Superintendent of Security, Department of Transport, Ottawa, to the effect that a female employee, who wishes to remain anonymous had confided to her superior that she had met with RAY on 3 occasions, once in the Laurentians, once in Ottawa and once in Montreal. These meetings are believed to have taken place prior to the murder of Dr. Martin Luther KING.

2. Recently this woman has received telephone calls from William Bradford HUEY (phonetic) in Alabama, asking her about her association with RAY. This person is now concerned about the turn of events and consented to be interviewed by a member of this Force relative to her association with RAY.

3. On the 15 OCT 68 subject was interviewed and the following information was obtained from her.

"On the 4th of August 1967, my girlfriend and I went to St. Jovite, P.Q. to spend the long week-end. We arrived there at around 7:00 p.m. and registered at the "Petit Manoir" Inn. We had supper and then decided to go to the Grey Rock Resort for the evening. As we entered the lounge, we saw a man sitting alone at a table facing the Dance Floor. My girlfriend said 'That man is alone, let's see if we can sit with him.' She approached him and he invited us to sit at his table. He introduced himself as Eric GALT and said that he was on holidays from Chicago and was staying at the Grey Rock. He also mentioned that his brother and his sister-in-law had come up with him from Chicago and that they had left for Montreal. He said that he had been there

. . . 2

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

for about one week and that he would be leaving within the next few days for Montreal to meet his brother. At around Midnight, my girlfriend said that she was not feeling well and she returned to the Petit Manoir. Eric and I went to the Manoir Pinoteau to see the entertainment. We returned to Grey Rock at around 4:00 a.m. and I spent the rest of the night with him in his room, I was intimate with him. I did not notice anything unusual about him. He was quiet, polite, neat and reserved. The next morning, I left him at around 11:00 a.m., at which time he told me that he was leaving for Montreal. He said that he did not know where he would be staying in Montreal, but that he would like to see me again and that he would call the Petit Manoir and let me know where he was staying. He was driving an old red Plymouth around a 1956 model. I did not look at the License Plates.

He called around supper time and since we were out, he left a message with the desk advising to call a number in Montreal. I called and talked to a desk clerk at a hotel in the East end of Montreal. She gave me the address and the number of the room where Eric was staying. He was not in at the time. On Monday, the 7th of August, my girlfriend and I drove down to Montreal and went to the hotel to see Eric. I don't remember the name of the hotel except that it is around the corner from the Acapulco Club. We met Eric in the hall and he appeared pleased and surprised to see us. We shared his quarters during the two nights we spent in Montreal. He was not intimate with either of us in Montreal. He took us out to the Acapulco Club and to restaurants. He seemed to have money and appeared to pay for everything with Canadian $20.00 bills. In fact, he gave me a Twenty before we left Montreal, in case I had car trouble. I gave him my address in Ottawa.

Some three weeks later, he called me and said that he was in Ottawa staying at the Town and Country Motel for the week-end. He stayed in Ottawa for two days and I showed him around Ottawa. I did not stay with him at the Town and Country. He did not appear to know anyone in Ottawa. I don't recall him saying where he was coming from, but I assumed it was Montreal. He did not have a car and probably came by train. He mentioned that he was working for his brother in Real Estate and that he did not do much but was paid well. He also said that he had no problems with money and could always get some.

. . . 3

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

He never mentioned any friends or associates besides his borther and I never saw him with anyone. He never mentioned the name Martin Luther KING and never indicated any hatred toward any Negroes.

I did not hear any more from him until around March 1968 when I received a letter from him postmarked Hollywood, California. I don't remember the address and have since destroyed the letter and envelope. The letter was short and did not contain much of interest. He was enquiring as to when I was taking my holidays and said if I write, to do it soon because he would not be at that address after a couple of weeks. I received the letter some three weeks before the assassination of Martin Luther KING.

When I heard that Eric GALT had been arrested and was implicated in the murder of Dr. KING, I panicked and destroyed the letter.

About one month ago, I received a phone call from one William Bradford HUEY who said that he was writing a book about James Earl RAY and when he mentioned the names Grey Rock and Eric GALT, I knew that he must have gotten my name and address from RAY. I agreed to see him and we met for lunch at the Holiday Inn. At that time he showed me his credentials, his picture in Time Magazine with RAY's lawyer and some of his books. He was very charming and appeared to know all about my association with RAY, including the fact that I had been intimate with him. He appeared to be mainly interested in what I thought of RAY and I told him that as far as I was concerned, he was a normal man. He said that I would be the Mystery woman in his book and assured me that my name would not be mentioned. He had a photographer with him and I agreed to let him take smoky pictures which they assured me would show only shadows. He gave me $100.00 for the information and invited me to go to New York at his expense, any time I felt like it, and to call him collect if I could remember anything else.

I have no other information to offer and the above is all I can remember about my association with James Earl RAY alias Eric GALT.

4. The above information was obtained during several hours of questioning and our investigator is satisfied that it contains all that this informant knows about RAY. She is very concerned about the possibility

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

of her name and photograph appearing in HUSY's book and in this regard she was advised to consult a lawyer.

5. The girlfriend mentioned has been contacted, however, she has no information of value to offer. She could not remember the name of the hotel where they stayed in Montreal and could not elaborate on any of the points covered by the informant.

W. F. G. Perry, Insp.,
Assistant Officer in Charge,
Criminal Investigation Branch.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

RCMP GRC 6880 — C 237 REV. 1-4-66

OTHER FILE REFERENCES. REF. AUTRES DOSSIERS:	DIVISION	DATE	RCMP FILE REFERENCES. REF. DOSSIERS GRC:
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~	"A"	1 NOV	68HQ-791-Q-60 (Vol.5)
	SUB-DIVISION - SOUS-DIVISION: OTTAWA		68A-790-36
	DETACHMENT - DETACHEMENT: G.I.S.		68-790-42 (GIS)

RE: OBJET:

Dr. Martin Luther KING - Murder of
Assistance to the F.B.I.

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 2/12/25

31 OCT 68

1. This date, Claire KEATING was re-interviewed and the following signed statement was obtained from her:

STATEMENT OF: Claire (Mrs. Michael) KEATING, nee CLOUTIER
DOB: 15 JUN 1928
35 Woodridge Crescent, Apt. #512, Ottawa, Ontario

Further to my statement dated 15 OCT 1968, I wish to state that James Earl RAY never mentioned anything about Passports to me. The first time the subject was mentioned was when William Bradford HUIE came to see me. He said that RAY had told him that he intended to use me to obtain a Canadian Passport, but changed his mind because he figured that I would turn him in to the Police. In my position as a Secretary with the Department of Transport, I would not risk my job by helping someone fraudulently obtain a Canadian Passport. The article in Look Magazine is factual with a few minor discrepancies. I did not show RAY the R.C.M.P. Headquarters and only received one letter from him, not letters as mentioned in the article. After reading the article, I remembered that the name of the hotel where we stayed with him in Montreal was the Mar-K on Notre-Dame Street. I have a sister, Yvette CHARLEBOIS, who is secretary to the Registrar of Citizenship, but I am positive that I never mentioned her name or employment to RAY. I told her about my involvement with RAY only after HUIE'S visit.

SIGNED: Claire KEATING

WITNESS: A. SYNNETT, Cpl.

2. Her sister, Yvette CHARLEBOIS, was interviewed and the following statement was obtained from her:

STATEMENT OF: Yvette (Mrs. Maurice) CHARLEBOIS
DOB: 3 JUN 26
232 Whitton Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

I have been employed as Secretary to the Registrar of Citizenship, Mr. Ross MARTIN, for the past 3 years. About one and a half months ago, my sister Claire told me about her involvement with James Earl RAY. It was after HUIE'S visit to Ottawa to see her. At no time did my sister ever ask me to help her obtain a passport for anyone. In fact, she never mentioned the word passport during the course of our conversation. The reason that she came to me after HUIE'S visit was that she was very worried and needed to confide in someone close to her. Claire is a very honest and dependable person, and her only fault is that she is a little too naive.

SIGNED: Yvette CHARLEBOIS

WITNESS: A. SYNNETT, Cpl.

3. I am satisfied that RAY did not mention anything about Passports to Mrs. KEATING and that the fact that her sister is Secretary to the Registrar of Citizenship is only a co-incidence. Mrs. KEATING has been most co-operative and I am positive that she is an honest person, placed in a very embarrassing position by her association with RAY.

4. In compliance with instructions received, I also re-interviewed Ruth CHAPPELL and asked her for a written statement. Mrs. CHAPPELL is a widow with a 19-year-old son. She is desperately afraid of her name being made public and only reluctantly agreed to give the following signed statement:

STATEMENT OF: Ruth CHAPPELL
DOB: 24 SEP 1918
143 Longpre Street, Eastview, Ontario

During the first long week-end in August, I accompanied Claire KEATING to St-Jovite, P.Q., where we stayed at the "Petit Manoir" Inn. During the evening, we motored up to the Grey Rock Inn where we met a man who introduced himself as Eric GALT. I did not pay much attention to him and after a few drinks I went back to the Manoir. Claire stayed with him. I did not see GALT again until we visited him in Montreal the following Monday. Since it was impossible to find a room in Montreal because of Expo, we stayed with him during the two nights that we spent in Montreal. He took us out to the Acapulco Club. He seemed to have enough money to

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

get along, but he did not strike me as being very prosperous. He never mentioned friends or associates and did not introduce us to anyone. He appeared to be a quiet and regular sort of a guy. He never mentioned the word passport to us. I never saw him again after we left Montreal. I heard from Claire later that he had been to Ottawa to see her. After James Earl RAY'S arrest, she called me and asked if I thought that he could be the man we had met. I did not think so at the time and was surprised when it turned out to be him.

SIGNED: Ruth CHAPPELL

WITNESS: A. SYNNETT, Cpl.

5. Discreet enquiries at the Town and Country Motel, 1476 Richmond Road, Ottawa, revealed that Eric GALT registered there on the 18th of AUGUST 1967 and left on the 20th of AUGUST 1967. He gave his address as 507 Chestnut Street, Chicago, Ill., and was driving a Plymouth, Licence No. LM5942. He stayed in Cabin No. 30, which is not equipped with a telephone. Any calls made by him from one of the several pay phones at the Motel would not go through the Motel Switchboard and be recorded. Although he registered as Mr. & Mrs. Eric GALT, Mrs. KEATING did not stay with him at the Motel, as mentioned in her statement dated 15 AUG 68. The Desk Clerk on duty at the Town and Country Motel when RAY, alias GALT, registered, Mrs. Edythe COBLEY, is reported to be dying from terminal cancer and will not be interviewed. It is extremely doubtful that she could remember anything of any significance about RAY. Copies of the Motel Registration Card are attached hereto.

CONCLUDED HERE

(J.A.G. Synnett) Cpl. 19024

(J.S.W.) S/Sgt.
N.C.O. i/c G.I.S.

JAGS:ntr

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE - GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA

RCMP GRC 6880

C 237 REV. 1-4-66

OTHER FILE REFERENCE REF. AUTRES DOSSIERS:	DIVISION	DATE	RCMP FILE REFERENCES: REF. DOSSIERS GRC:
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~	"A"	1 NOV 68	68HQ-791-Q-60 (Vol.5) 68A-790-36 68-790-42 (GIS)
	SUB-DIVISION - SOUS-DIVISION: OTTAWA		
	DETACHMENT - DÉTACHEMENT: G.I.S.		

RE: OBJET:

Dr. Martin Luther KING -
Murder of
Assistance to the F.B.I.

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 3/12/25

31 OCT 68

1. This date, Claire KEATING was re-interviewed and the following signed statement was obtained from her:

STATEMENT OF: Claire (Mrs. Michael) KEATING, nee CLOUTIER
DOB: 15 JUN 1928
35 Woodridge Crescent, Apt. #512, Ottawa, Ontario

Further to my statement dated 15 OCT 1968, I wish to state that James Earl RAY never mentioned anything about Passports to me. The first time the subject was mentioned was when William Bradford HUIE came to see me. He said that RAY had told him that he intended to use me to obtain a Canadian Passport, but changed his mind because he figured that I would turn him in to the Police. In my position as a Secretary with the Department of Transport, I would not risk my job by helping someone fraudulently obtain a Canadian Passport. The article in Look Magazine is factual with a few minor discrepancies. I did not show RAY the R.C.M.P. Headquarters and only received one letter from him, not letters as mentioned in the article. After reading the article, I remembered that the name of the hotel where we stayed with him in Montreal was the Har-K on Notre-Dame Street. I have a sister, Yvette CHARLEBOIS, who is secretary to the Registrar of Citizenship, but I am positive that I never mentioned her name or employment to RAY. I told her about my involvement with RAY only after HUIE'S visit.

SIGNED: Claire KEATING

WITNESS: A. SYNNETT, Cpl.

2. Her sister, Yvette CHARLEBOIS, was interviewed and the following statement was obtained from her:

STATEMENT OF: Yvette (Mrs. Maurice) CHARLEBOIS
DOB: 3 JUN 26
232 Whitton Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

I have been employed as Secretary to the Registrar of Citizenship, Mr. Ross MARTIN, for the past 3 years. About one and a half months ago, my sister Claire told me about her involvement with James Earl RAY. It was after HUIE'S visit to Ottawa to see her. At no time did my sister ever ask me to help her obtain a passport for anyone. In fact, she never mentioned the word passport during the course of our conversation. The reason that she came to me after HUIE'S visit was that she was very worried and needed to confide in someone close to her. Claire is a very honest and dependable person, and her only fault is that she is a little too naive.

SIGNED: Yvette CHARLEBOIS

WITNESS: A. SYNNETT, Cpl.

3. I am satisfied that RAY did not mention anything about Passports to Mrs. KEATING and that the fact that her sister is Secretary to the Registrar of Citizenship is only a co-incidence. Mrs. KEATING has been most co-operative and I am positive that she is an honest person, placed in a very embarrassing position by her association with RAY.

4. In compliance with instructions received, I also re-interviewed Ruth CHAPPELL and asked her for a written statement. Mrs. CHAPPELL is a widow with a 19-year-old son. She is desperately afraid of her name being made public and only reluctantly agreed to give the following signed statement:

STATEMENT OF: Ruth CHAPPELL
DOB: 24 SEP 1918
143 Longpre Street, Eastview, Ontario

During the first long week-end in August, I accompanied Claire KEATING to St-Jovite, P.Q., where we stayed at the "Petit Manoir" Inn. During the evening, we motored up to the Grey Rock Inn where we met a man who introduced himself as Eric GALT. I did not pay much attention to him and after a few drinks I went back to the Manoir. Claire stayed with him. I did not see GALT again until we visited him in Montreal the following Monday. Since it was impossible to find a room in Montreal because of Expo, we stayed with him during the two nights that we spent in Montreal. He took us out to the Acapulco Club. He seemed to have enough money to

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

get along, but he did not strike me as being very prosperous. He never mentioned friends or associates and did not introduce us to anyone. He appeared to be a quiet and regular sort of a guy. He never mentioned the word passport to us. I never saw him again after we left Montreal. I heard from Claire later that he had been to Ottawa to see her. After James Earl RAY'S arrest, she called me and asked if I thought that he could be the man we had met. I did not think so at the time and was surprised when it turned out to be him.

SIGNED: Ruth CHAPPELL

WITNESS: A. SYNNETT, Cpl.

5. Discreet enquiries at the Town and Country Motel, 1476 Richmond Road, Ottawa, revealed that Eric GALT registered there on the 18th of AUGUST 1967 and left on the 20th of AUGUST 1967. He gave his address as 507 Chestnut Street, Chicago, Ill., and was driving a Plymouth, Licence No. LM5942. He stayed in Cabin No. 30, which is not equipped with a telephone. Any calls made by him from one of the several pay phones at the Motel would not go through the Motel Switchboard and be recorded. Although he registered as Mr. & Mrs. Eric GALT, Mrs. KEATING did not stay with him at the Motel, as mentioned in her statement dated 15 AUG 68. The Desk Clerk on duty at the Town and Country Motel when RAY, alias GALT, registered, Mrs. Edythe COBLEY, is reported to be dying from terminal cancer and will not be interviewed. It is extremely doubtful that she could remember anything of any significance about RAY. Copies of the Motel Registration Card are attached hereto.

CONCLUDED HERE

J.A.G. Synnett Cpl.
(J.A.G. Synnett) 19024

(J.S.W.) S/Sgt.
N.C.O. i/c G.I.S.

JAGS:mtr

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED:
THE COMMISSIONER
ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
OTTAWA 7, CANADA

TOUTE CORRESPONDANCE DOIT ÊTRE ADRESSÉE COMME SUIT:
LE COMMISSAIRE
GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA
OTTAWA 7, CANADA

HEADQUARTERS – DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE

OTTAWA 7, CANADA

OUR NO. _____
VOTRE N°

IR NO. 68HQ 791-Q-60 (Vol.5)
VOTRE N°

October 25, 1968.

Mr. Moss Lee Innes,
c/o United States Embassy,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Re: Martin Luther KING
Murder of

On October 8 last information was received from the Superintendent of Security, Department of Transport, Ottawa, to the effect that a female employee, who wishes to remain anonymous had confided to her superior that she had met with RAY on 3 occasions, once in the Laurentians, once in Ottawa and once in Montreal. These meetings are believed to have taken place prior to the murder of Dr. Martin Luther KING.

2. Recently this woman has received telephone calls from William Bradford HUEY (phonetic) in Alabama, asking her about her association with RAY. This person is now concerned about the turn of events and consented to be interviewed by a member of this Force relative to her association with RAY.

3. On the 15 OCT 68 subject was interviewed and the following information was obtained from her.

"On the 4th of August 1967, my girlfriend and I went to St. Jovite, P.Q. to spend the long week-end. We arrived there at around 7:00 p.m. and registered at the "Petit Manoir" Inn. We had supper and then decided to go to the Grey Rock Resort for the evening. As we entered the lounge, we saw a man sitting alone at a table facing the Dance Floor. My girlfriend said 'That man is alone, let's see if we can sit with him.' She approached him and he invited us to sit at his table. He introduced himself as Eric GALT and said that he was on holidays from Chicago and was staying at the Grey Rock. He also mentioned that his brother and his sister-in-law had come up with him from Chicago and that they had left for Montreal. He said that he had been there

. . . 2

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

for about one week and that he would be leaving within the next few days for Montreal to meet his brother. At around Midnight, my girlfriend said that she was not feeling well and she returned to the Petit Manoir. Eric and I went to the Manoir Pinoteau to see the entertainment. We returned to Grey Rock at around 4:00 a.m. and I spent the rest of the night with him in his room, I was intimate with him. I did not notice anything unusual about him. He was quiet, polite, neat and reserved. The next morning, I left him at around 11:00 a.m., at which time he told me that he was leaving for Montreal. He said that he did not know where he would be staying in Montreal, but that he would like to see me again and that he would call the Petit Manoir and let me know where he was staying. He was driving an old red Plymouth around a 1956 model. I did not look at the License Plates.

He called around supper time and since we were out, he left a message with the desk advising to call a number in Montreal. I called and talked to a desk clerk at a hotel in the East end of Montreal. She gave me the address and the number of the room where Eric was staying. He was not in at the time. On Monday, the 7th of August, my girlfriend and I drove down to Montreal and went to the hotel to see Eric. I don't remember the name of the hotel except that it is around the corner from the Acapulco Club. We met Eric in the hall and he appeared pleased and surprised to see us. We shared his quarters during the two nights we spent in Montreal. He was not intimate with either of us in Montreal. He took us out to the Acapulco Club and to restaurants. He seemed to have money and appeared to pay for everything with Canadian $20.00 bills. In fact, he gave me a Twenty before we left Montreal, in case I had car trouble. I gave him my address in Ottawa.

Some three weeks later, he called me and said that he was in Ottawa staying at the Town and Country Motel for the week-end. He stayed in Ottawa for two days and I showed him around Ottawa. I did not stay with him at the Town and Country. He did not appear to know anyone in Ottawa. I don't recall him saying where he was coming from, but I assumed it was Montreal. He did not have a car and probably came by train. He mentioned that he was working for his brother in Real Estate and that he did not do much but was paid well. He also said that he had no problems with money and could always get some.

. . . 3

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

He never mentioned any friends or associates besides his borther and I never saw him with anyone. He never mentioned the name Martin Luther KING and never indicated any hatred toward any Negroes.

I did not hear any more from him until around March 1968 when I received a letter from him postmarked Hollywood, California. I don't remember the address and have since destroyed the letter and envelope. The letter was short and did not contain much of interest. He was enquiring as to when I was taking my holideys and said if I write, to do it soon because he would not be at that address after a couple of weeks. I received the letter some three weeks before the assassination of Martin Luther KING.

When I heard that Eric GALT had been arrested and was implicated in the murder of Dr. KING, I panicked and destroyed the letter.

About one month ago, I received a phone call from one William Bradford HUEY who said that he was writing a book about James Earl RAY and when he mentioned the names Grey Rook and Eric GALT, I knew that he must have gotten my name and address from RAY. I agreed to see him and we met for lunch at the Holiday Inn. At that time he showed me his credentials, his picture in Time Magazine with RAY's lawyer and some of his books. He was very charming and appeared to know all about my association with RAY, including the fact that I had been intimate with him. He appeared to be mainly interested in what I thought of RAY and I told him that as far as I was concerned, he was a normal man. He said that I would be the Mystery woman in his book and assured me that my name would not be mentioned. He had a photographer with him and I agreed to let him take smoky pictures which they assured me would show only shadows. He gave me $100.00 for the information and invited me to go to New York at his expense, any time I felt like it, and to call him collect if I could remember anything else.

I have no other information to offer and the above is all I can remember about my association with James Earl RAY alias Eric GALT.

4. The above information was obtained during several hours of questioning and our investigator is satisfied that it contains all that this informant knows about RAY. She is very concerned about the possibility

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

of her name and photograph appearing in HUEY's book and in this regard she was advised to consult a lawyer.

5. The girlfriend mentioned has been contacted, however, she has no information of value to offer. She could not remember the name of the hotel where they stayed in Montreal and could not elaborate on any of the points covered by the informant.

W. F. G. Perry, Insp.,
Assistant Officer in Charge,
Criminal Investigation Branch.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176